

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. – 22. (Cancelled).

23. (Currently amended) An external urinary catheter, ~~comprising~~ having a tip portion and a sheath portion, said external urinary catheter ~~being manufactured by thermoplastic processing, characterized in that, in a position of use, at least one area of the external urinary catheter is transparent and/or permeable comprised of~~ comprising 10-60% citrate plasticizer and 40-90% polyamide-polyether block copolymer.

24. (Cancelled).

25. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 24 23, ~~in which wherein~~ said ~~material catheter~~ comprises a polystyrene polyethylene/butylene polystyrene compound, another styrenic elastomer compound or elastomeric metallocene polyethylene or metallocene polypropylene, and at least one slip additive.

26. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 25, ~~in which wherein~~ said at least one slip additive is an amide, such as erucamide, stearamide or oleamide ~~or any other suitable slip additive.~~

27. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 23, ~~in which wherein~~ ~~the said~~ at least one area of the catheter has a haze value (according to ASTM Standard Test Method DI003-61) lower than 30%, ~~preferably lower than 15%.~~

28. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 23, ~~in which wherein~~ the external urinary catheter ~~is made from a material comprising~~ comprises at least one permeable thermoplastic elastomer and at least one plasticizer.

29. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 28, ~~in which wherein a film of said material external urinary catheter having~~ has a thickness of approximately 0.2 mm and has a permeability of at least 500 g/m² ~~pr. /24 hours, preferably at least 1000 g/m²pr. 24 hours, more preferably at least 1500 g/m²pr. 24 hours.~~

30. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 28, ~~in which wherein~~ the thermoplastic elastomer is a polyamide-polyether block copolymer, a polyether ester, a thermoplastic urethane or any other suitable material.

31. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 29, ~~in which wherein~~ the thermoplastic elastomer is a polyamide-polyether block copolymer, a polyether ester, a thermoplastic urethane or any other suitable material.

32. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 23, ~~in which wherein~~ the external urinary catheter ~~is made from a material comprising~~ comprises at least one transparent and permeable thermoplastic elastomer and at least one plasticizer.

33 – 34. (Cancelled).

35. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 24, ~~in which wherein~~ said ~~material catheter~~ further comprises ~~an addition of a polymer.~~

36. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 28, ~~in which wherein~~ said ~~material catheter~~ further comprises an addition of a polymer.

37. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 32, ~~in which wherein~~ said ~~material catheter~~ further comprises an addition of a polymer.

38. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 35, ~~in which~~ wherein said polymer is a polyethylene elastomer, a polyethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, a graft polyolefin maleic anhydride, an amorphous ethylene-propylene-diene terpolymer, an ionomer or any other suitable material.

39. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 24 ~~23~~, ~~in which~~ wherein said ~~material catheter~~ comprises 50-60% polyamide-polyether block copolymer, 10-20% amorphous ethylene-propylene-diene terpolymer and 20-40% citrate plasticizer.

40. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 24, ~~24 23~~, ~~in which~~ wherein said ~~material catheter~~ further comprises a release and/or anti-blocking agent, such as ~~eg.~~ an amide or an amorphous silica.

41. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 23, ~~in which~~ wherein the inner side of the sheath portion is provided with an integral layer of a pressure-sensitive adhesive and the outer side of the sheath portion with an adhesive-rejecting layer.

42. (Original) A kit comprising an external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 23 and a separate adhesive element.

43. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The kit comprising an external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 23 and further comprising interlocking elements.

44. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing an external urinary catheter ~~comprising~~ having a tip portion and a sheath portion comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining a base material comprising 10-60% citrate plasticizer and 40-90% polyamide-polyether block copolymer;

b) ~~by~~ subjecting a said base material to one or more steps in a thermoplastic process; ~~character-~~

~~a c t e r i z e d i n t h a t s a i d b a s e m a t e r i a l c o m p r i s e s a t l e a s t o n e t r a n s p a r e n t a n d / o r p e r m e a b l e t h e r m o p l a s t i c e l a s t o m e r a n d a t l e a s t o n e p l a s t i c i z e r a n d~~
c) producing said catheter.

45. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The method as claimed in claim 44, ~~in which~~ wherein said thermoplastic process used to produce said tip portion is ~~produced by injection moulding~~ molding and said thermoplastic process used to produce said sheath portion ~~by~~ is selected from the group consisting of extrusion, extrusion blow ~~moulding~~ molding, injection blow ~~moulding~~ molding ~~or and~~ cold rolling.

46. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The method as claimed in claim 45, ~~in which~~ wherein said ~~the~~ tip portion is produced as a separate unit ~~which~~ and is subsequently connected with the sheath portion.

47. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The method as claimed in claim 44, ~~in which~~ wherein said thermoplastic process used to produce said external urinary catheter is ~~produced~~ entirely by extrusion blow ~~moulding~~ molding.

48. (New) The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 23, in which the said at least one area has a haze value (according to ASTM Standard Test Method D1003-61) lower than 15%.

49. (New) The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 28, wherein said external urinary catheter has a thickness of approximately 0.2 mm and has a permeability of at least 1000 g/m²/24 hours.

50. (New) The external urinary catheter as claimed in claim 28, wherein said external urinary catheter has a thickness of approximately 0.2 mm and has a permeability of at least 1500 g/m²/24 hours.